

الآية

(سبحانك لا علم لنا إلا ما علمتنا إنك أنت العليم الحكيم)

صدق الله العظيم

سورة البقرة، الآية رقم (32)

Qur'anic Verse

“Glory to thee, of knowledge we have none, save what You have taught us. Indeed, it is You who is the knowing, the wise.”

Holy Qur'an

Surah Al-Baqara, verse number (32).

Dedication

To my dear parents and beloved family members.

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed at investigating the problems encountered by Sudanese EFL students in using paper English- Arabic bilingual dictionary for meaning determination and sentence construction. The essential aim of this study is to draw the attention of the students of the great importance and the vital role of the dictionary to English language learning. This study discusses the concepts of theoretical lexicography and practical lexicography in great details. The researcher takes the EFL students of the first year (1st&2nd semester of the academic year 2018) of the College of Languages as a sample to carry out this study. The study has followed the descriptive method. For data collection the researcher conducts a test to investigate and identify the problems facing them in using English bilingual dictionary, the test consists of two parts, part one tests students skills in using the dictionary for meaning determination task, part two tests students ability to construct a well-formed sentence through the use of the dictionary. The test is set out to find out the actual reasons behind these problems, and to suggest suitable remedial procedures. In addition to the students, the study questions the staff members of English language at the Sudanese Universities about the same problems. A test was given to 40 students of the first year and a questionnaire was given to 24 highly qualified and experienced teachers of English language at the Sudanese universities. The test results were analyzed by using (SPSS). The results revealed by the tests and the questionnaire affirm the hypotheses of the study that EFL Sudanese students demonstrate poor skills in using the dictionary for meaning determination and sentence construction. Also results of the test and the questionnaire affirm the assumption that the absence of the lexicographic skills affect the process of learning the language negatively. Considering the findings of the study, and in order to participate in solving the students' weakness in using English bilingual dictionary, the researcher recommends and suggests the following main areas of concerns: -Motivating students and raise their awareness of how to use the dictionary probably which will lead to learn the language probably and increase students' stock of vocabulary. -Introducing lexicography courses into the curriculum. - Language learning needs authentic materials and a lot of paper-back dictionary practice which result in consolidating the lexical items in students' minds. – Training teachers to give more dictionary skills activities and exercises to students.

Abstract

(Arabic Version)

المستخلص

هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى تقصي المشاكل التي تواجه الطلاب السودانيين المتخصصين في اللغة الانجليزية كلغة ثانية في استخدام القواميس الورقية ثنائية اللغة لتحديد معاني الكلمات وبناء الجمل الإنجليزية. الهدف الرئيسي لهذه الدراسة هو لفت انتباه الطلاب لدور العظيم وأهمية القاموس في تعلم اللغة بإتقان. ناقشت هذه الدراسة مفاهيم المعجمة العلمية والنظرية باستفاضة. قام الباحث باختيار طلاب السنة الأولى بالفصل الدراسي الأول للعام 2018 بجامعة السودان للعلوم والتكنولوجيا والذين يدرسون تخصص اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة ثانية كعينة للبحث. قام الباحث باستخدام الاختبار والاستبيان كأدوات لجمع المعلومات. تألف الاختبار من جزئين، الجزء الأول خصص لقياس مهارات الطلاب في تحديد معاني الكلمات، بينما الجزء الثاني من الاختبار خصص لقياس مقدرات الطلاب في كتابة جمل صحيحة ومكتملة الأركان. تم استخدام الاختبار كأداة لمعرفة الأسباب الحقيقية لمشاكل الطلاب واقتراح حلول لها. كذلك تم توزيع استبيان على اساتذة اللغة الإنجليزية بجامعة السودان لجمع معلومات حول المشاكل التي تواجه الطلاب. تم توزيع الاختبار على 40 طالباً بينما تم توزيع الاستبيان على عدد 24 استاذاً بجامعة السودان من اصحاب الخبرات والمؤهلات العليا. تم تحليل نتائج الاختبار والاستبيان باستخدام برنامج التحليل الاحصائي (SPSS). حيث كشفت نتائج الاختبار والاستبيان عن ضعف مهارات الطلاب في استخدام القاموس الإنجليزي الورقي في بناء الجمل وتحديد معاني الكلمات. أثبتت نتائج الاستبيان والاختبار التأثير البالغ لمهارات استخدام القاموس في تعلم اللغة الإنجليزية مما يشير إلى صحة فرضيات هذه الدراسة. على ضوء النتائج فقد توصلت هذه الدراسة إلى عدد من النتائج أهمها ضرورة رفع وعي الطلاب وتشجيعهم على استخدام القواميس الورقية بصورة جيدة مما يساعد على تعلم اللغة وزيادة ذخيرتهم اللغوية. إضافة كورس المعجمة ومهارات استخدام القاموس إلى المقررات الدراسية التي تدرس لطلاب تعلم اللغة يتطلب الممارسة الحقيقية باستخدام قواميس ورقية والتي تساعد في ترسيخ المفردات في اذهان الطلاب. تدريب الاساتذة لإعطاء الطلاب نشاطات تتعلق باستخدام القواميس حتى يتسنى لهم إتقان استخدام القواميس.

Definitions of Key Terms

Definitions of Terms

A dictionary: is “a reference book containing the words of a language usually alphabetically arranged, with information on their forms, pronunciations, functions, meanings, etymologies, spelling and idiomatic uses.” Howard (2002, p. 21).

Lexicography: is “an art of writing a dictionary or the science of compiling a dictionary. It studies words as elements of a system. It approaches words as individual units with respect to their meaning and usage.” Dash (2007,p.229).

Practical lexicography: is regarded as “the art and science of dictionary-making” and “a branch of applied linguistics” Crystal (2008,p.278).

Theoretical lexicography: is the scholarly discipline of analyzing and describing the semantic, syntagmatic and paradigmatic relationships within the lexicon (vocabulary) of a language, developing theories of dictionary components and structures linking the data in dictionaries, and is often associated with scholarly studies in such disciplines as linguistics and especially lexicology.” Hartmann and James (1998,p.85).

Lexicology: is defined as “ a subdiscipline of linguistics or, more specifically, semantics that investigates and describes the structure of the vocabulary of a language. It also studies “linguistic expressions for their internal semantic structure and the relationships between individual words or lexical units.” Bussmann (2006,p683).

Etymology: “The study of the origin, basic meaning, and development of individual words as well as of their relationship to words in different languages of the same origin.” Bussmann (2006,p.385).

Arabicisation: “ is an important national language that is central to national unity and promotes the use of Arabic language.” Suliman (2004,p.18).

Polysemy: “A kind of feature in which a word illustrates different meanings and sub-meanings.” Dash (2007,p.253).

Lemma: “the basic form of a word, for example the singular form of a noun or the infinitive form of a verb, as it is shown at the beginning of a dictionary entry.” OALD (2013,P.845).

Dictionary Use Strategies: are “techniques used by the effective dictionary user in order to make a successful search in the dictionary”. Gavriilidou (2012,p.35).

Learner’s Dictionary: “It helps learners in their process of learning a language - either first or second language. It serves to deal with many common and simple words, which will posit problem to foreign language learners.” Dash (2007,p.252).

International Phonetic Alphabet IPA: “is concerned to develop a set of symbols which would be convenient to use, but comprehensive enough to cope with the wide variety of sounds found in the languages of the world; and to encourage the use of this notion as widely as possible among those concerned with the language.” Handbook of the International Phonetic Association (IPA). (1999,p.1).

Contextualization: “The term Contextualization is used to explain why certain things have been said or written at a particular situation and what will happen if the same to point concepts are said in different situations.” Halliday (1994,p.15).

Collocation : “A term used in lexicology by some linguists to refer to the habitual co-occurrence of individual lexical items. ” Crystal (2008,p.86).

Connotation: “The emotive or affective component of a linguistic expression (such as style, idiolect, dialect, and emotional charge), which is superimposed upon its basic meaning and which—in contrast to the static conceptual meaning.” Bussmann (2006,p.235).

Register: “The term refers to a variety of language defined according to its use in social situations, e.g. a register of scientific, religious, formal English. ” Crystal (2008,p.409)

Sematic Meaning: “is the subdiscipline of linguistics concerned with the analysis and description of the so-called ‘literal‘meaning of linguistic expressions.” Bussmann (2006,p.1048).

Abbreviations

Abbreviations	
OED	Oxford English Dictionary.
LDOCE	Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English.
CCELD	Collins Cobuild English Language Dictionary.
CALD	Cambridge Advance Learner's Dictionary.
OALD	Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary Oxford University Press.
LD	Learner's Dictionary.
DUSs	Dictionary Use Strategies.
IPA	International Phonetic Alphabet
OE	Old English.
ME	Middle English.
MODE	Modern English.
PDE	Present Day English.
L1	Native language (Mother Tongue).
L2	Target language (second language i.e. English).
SL	source language.
TL	Target Language.
EFL	English as a Foreign Language.
ESL	English as a Second Language.
SUST	Sudan University of Science and Technology.

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